

## **Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting February 14, 2008**

**Voting Council Members Present:** Chairman Gary Kendell, Jeanette Bucklew, Cyndy Erickson, Ken Carter, Robert Mahan, Paul Stageberg, Kathy Stone for Dean Austin, Allison Kupka for Chris Wilson, and Jane Larkin via phone.

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Stephan Arndt

**Staff:** Dennis Wiggins, Susie Sher, Becky Swift, and Krista Mattson (ODCP intern)

**Guests:** Heather Hackbarth, Iowa Department of Management

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Kendell called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Board members and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes of the November 1, 2007, meeting were approved as submitted.

### **Byrne-JAG Funding Update**

Director Kendell provided a review of the Byrne-JAG funding situation. He stated that ODCP had received \$2.8 million for the current fiscal year, but a 70% cut in funding is anticipated meaning that Iowa would receive approximately \$880,000 which would mean cutting 39 Task Force personnel. Director Kendell has asked the Governor to include \$1.4 million in his budget to offset the anticipated losses. There has been an attempt at the federal level to restore funds and there has been great support from the Iowa Congressional Delegation. Overall there has been an 84% cut to Byrne-JAG since 2003.

Further discussion took place regarding the Byrne-JAG funding.

### **Legislative Proposals**

Chairman Kendell reported that ODCP pre-filed two bills: 1.) Pseudoephedrine sales and tracking, and 2.) Adding Salvia divinorum to the list of schedule 1 controlled substance. The Salvia bill passed the House last year, but was stalled in the Senate. The Pseudo bill passed the House Public Safety committee 21-0. It was noted that all DNE supervisors are concerned about an increase in the number of meth labs.

### **Underage Drinking Task Force Update**

Becky Swift provided an update of the work of the Underage Drinking Task Force.

### **“Costs of Substance Abuse” Data Collection Project**

Susie Sher is working to collect data on the societal costs of substance abuse. She stated that finding hard numbers has been difficult and that she has been estimating or

extrapolating numbers based on national data. She provided an overview of what she's collected and asked Council members to share information they might have available.

### **Agency/Association Updates and Announcements**

Paul Stageberg provided a brief update about the new 5-year Family Drug Court project that will expand existing courts in Des Moines and Sioux City and start new courts in three additional communities. CJJP will conduct the project evaluation. He also mentioned that Iowa had received an In-Depth Technical Assistance grant that will determine changes needed to better support the families who participate in the Family Drug Court project.

Kathy Stone commented on a presentation conducted by Dr. Nicholas Taylor, a psychologist from Colorado who has developed a comprehensive community-based out-patient substance abuse treatment program. Dr. Taylor's presentation was supported by the Technical Assistance grant.

Kathy Stone provided an update on the Access to Recovery grant, which pays for services and supports that help overcome barriers to treatment and recovery. The plan is to implement the grant in the five communities where most women are released following incarceration.

Steve Arndt reported that evaluation of the Jail-Based Treatment Program is winding down, though a new grant is being written for additional funding. Steve Arndt also shared some information about a National Institutes of Health long-term adoption study that followed 900 adoptees for 35 years. Half of the adoptees had a biological parent in prison or who has substance abuse issues. The study also looked at the adoptive parents.

Allison Kupka, a certified prevention specialist from Employee and Family Resources reported that they are having good success using the Rethinking Drinking and Chance for Change programs in Polk County.

Cyndy Erickson reported that the 2008 Iowa Youth Survey (IYS) instrument, which will be implemented on-line in the fall, was very successful when it was pre-tested. There will be a Drop-Out Prevention Summit held later in the year, the focus of which will be on disproportionate youth. The Department of Education has convened a Resource Management Leadership Team to look systemically at supports youth have in school, in particular the structure and connections they need to be successful. The Department will also be looking at how to help schools, especially small districts, better use their Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities funding.

Paul Stageberg stated that he was hopeful there would be legislation to receive funding that would allow CJJP in collaboration with the DOE, IDPH and others to conduct the IYS every two years.

Gary Kendell brought up legislation that has been introduced to require a K-12 core curriculum. He asked if there would be a place in the curriculum for prevention programming.

Ken Carter provided an update on drug trends, noting that ICE prices in the Midwest are increasing, seizures of MDMA are up and that distribution of this drug have changed from the Netherlands to Canada and that there are increasing concerns about Canadian border issues.

Jeanette Bucklew shared that an RFP for level of service assessments that would be administered at Oakdale has been published. These assessments would drive the level of treatment programming for offenders and prioritize who gets treatment. She stated that an increasing re-entry barrier is access to the Prime for Life program due to inability to pay. Krista Mattson stated that participants cannot be denied entry based on ability to pay.

DOC and DHS have submitted a joint application to Medicare/Medicaid to provide services to offenders who are mentally ill but employable. The grant would make these offenders eligible for Medicaid, which would allow them to purchase their medications.

DOC will be piloting a "One-Stop" re-entry program in Des Moines and Waterloo designed to assist offenders just returning to the community. DOC would like to build this program out to other communities by 2010.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at ODCP, 401 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite N, Des Moines.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Becky Swift".

Becky Swift

